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INTRAVASCULAR STENTABSTRACT of the Disclosure

5 A stent in a non-expanded state has a first expansion strut pair  
consisting of a first expansion strut positioned adjacent to a second expansion  
strut and a joining strut which couples the first and second expansion struts at a  
distal end of the first expansion strut pair. A plurality of the first expansion  
strut pair form a first expansion column. A second expansion strut pair consists  
of a first expansion strut positioned adjacent to a second expansion strut and a  
joining strut couples the first and second expansion struts at a proximal end of  
10 the second expansion strut pair. A plurality of the second expansion strut pair  
form a second expansion column. A first connecting strut includes a first  
connecting strut proximal section, a first connecting strut distal section and a  
first connecting strut intermediate section. The first connecting strut proximal  
section is coupled to the distal end of the first expansion strut pair in the first  
15 expansion column and the first connecting strut distal section is coupled to the  
proximal end of the second expansion strut pair of the second expansion  
column. A plurality of the first connecting struts form a first connecting strut  
column that couples the first expansion column to the second expansion  
column. A length of the first connecting strut proximal section is equal to a  
20 length of the first connecting strut distal section, and a length of the first  
connecting strut intermediate section is greater than the length of the first  
connecting strut proximal and distal sections.